## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USNATO 01941 241641Z ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9554
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GER
AMEMBASSY LONDON
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON ENG
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
USNMR SHAPE BE

CONFIDENTIAL USNATO 01941

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, UK

SUBJECT: UK PRESENTATION TO DPC ON BRITISH MARITIME CONTRIBUTION TO THE ALLIANCE

- 1. UK CHARGE (HOLMER) INFORMED PERMREPS BY LETTER ON FEBRUARY 21, 1978 THAT HIS AUTHORITIES ARE OFFERING THE DPC AND THE MILITARY COMMITTEE A PRESENTATION (TENTATIVELY SET FOR 4 APRIL) ON THE UK'S MARITIME CONTRIBUTION TO THE ALLIANCE. THE RATIONALE FOR PROVISION OF THE PRESENTATION IS PROVIDED IN PARA 2 BELOW.
- 2. BEGIN TEXT: THE IMPORTANCE OF TIMELY REINFORCEMENT AND RE-SUPPLY OF ALLIED COMMAND EUROPE BY SEA IN THE FACE OF THE VERY SUBSTANTIAL SOVIET NAVAL THREAT IS, OF COURSE, FULLY APPRECIATED WITHIN THE ALLIANCE. HOWEVER, THE CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL DETERRENCE AND TO THE DEFENSE OF THE ALLIANCE BY NATO'S NAVAL FORCES AND AIR FORCES ASSIGNED TO CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USNATO 01941 241641Z

MARITIME DPERATIONS MAY BE LESS WELL KNOWN THAN THAT OF THE NATO LAND AND AIR FORCES IN EUROPE. AS THE UK MAKES A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO THE ALLIANCE'S MARITIME FORCES IN THE EASTERN ATLANTIC AND THIS IS INDEED ONE OF THE PRIORITY AREAS FOR OUR DEFENSE EFFORT, MY AUTHORITIES FEEL IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO GIVE A PRESENTATION ON IT. END TEXT. GLITMAN

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## Message Attributes

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